



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Salt Lake City, Utah 84119
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In Reply Refer To:

3809

UTU-69380

(UT-023)

AUG 31 2005

Certified Mail – 7003 1010 0005 1876 0717

Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Gary Mullard
Northern Stone Supply, Inc.
P.O. Box 249
Oakley ID 83346

Dear Mr. Mullard:

A review has been conducted of your revised draft #2 plan modification for U-69380 that was received in the BLM Salt Lake Field Office on June 7, 2005.

During our review, deficiencies were identified that you must address before the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) can continue processing your modification. We appreciate your cooperation and need clarification of the deficiencies we have noted. We don't believe it will require great effort for the corrections. Attached to this letter is a copy of a letter from the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM) dated August 17, 2005 that states they have no more comments for your modification at this time.

The BLM needs you to respond to all of the deficiencies/comments below, preferably again with redline/strikeout text, so that we can see where in your plan modification changes were made. This needs to be completed before we can process your modification any further. Your revised draft will be Draft #3. Once you have made all of your revisions, submit copies of Draft #3 to DOGM and the BLM for further review(s).

Below are the deficiencies/comments that the BLM found while reviewing your draft modification.

- Page 3, 2.A.1. You state the Project Area is shown on figure 2. Figure 2's shape shows all claims including placer(s) 2, 3, 4 and 5. These claims are not on any of the other figures, but they are referenced in Appendix A.
- Page 3, 2.A.2, Public. It states that the "Project Area" is approximately 181.7 acres of public lands, and on page 12, last paragraph, it states that "NSS will continue to harvest surface stone on all the claims and private land", yet in figure 5, you have an area delineated for surface collection. These discrepancies need to be clarified as to what area(s) you are proposing for disturbance.

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

- Page 8, second paragraph, fifth bullet. You need to change the top end of your boulder weight (410,000 lbs).
- Page 8, third paragraph. Quarry 3 has never been authorized or permitted and questions of common variety will need to be dealt with if extraction of this stone is proposed.
- Page 8, last paragraph. You state, "The Turquoise Stone Quarry will produce about 5,000 tons per year of the quartzite products", but on page 11, 2.A.4, and page 13, fifth paragraph, you say you will increase production to 10,000 tons per year. This discrepancy needs to be corrected.
- Page 11, first paragraph. Please state that DOGM and the BLM will have access through the gates shown on figures 3 and 5.
- Page 11, 2.A.4, first sentence. Change the word amendments to modifications.
- Page 11, 2.A.4, first bullet. Clarify where the access road will be on fig. 5.
- Page 11, 2.A.4, third bullet. Are you still planning to install a 30' scale, even though you have recently installed a new scale into the old scales foundation? If not, please omit any reference of the 30' scale.
- Page 11, 2.A.4, fifth bullet. As mentioned above, collection areas need to be more specific than the "Project Area".
- Page 11, last paragraph, third sentence. Change the word amend to modify.
- Page 12, table 2-3 shows proposed disturbances for the next ten years in quarry complexes 1, 2 and 3, but figure 5 shows areas outside the complexes that are proposed for disturbance in the next ten years.
- Page 12, second paragraph. Are you still planning to replace your new scale with a 30' scale? If so, you need to submit a detailed design plan for the installation of the scale. If not, as stated above, please remove any reference of the 30' scale.
- Page 12, last paragraph. As mentioned above, you need to be more specific on collecting areas, not just "all claims and private land".
- Page 13, fifth paragraph. As mentioned above, clarify your estimated tonnage.
- Page 13, sixth paragraph, third sentence. Remove the word "topsoil" from the second to last sentence.
- Page 13, General Schedule of Operations, last sentence. Reword this sentence to include the "blue stippled areas" on figure 5, not just "any location shown on figure 5".
- Page 15, Water Quality/Riparian Areas. Insert text into this paragraph that NSS will adhere to the Utah Riparian Management Policy when considering proposed actions within 100 meters of a riparian area.
- Page 17, last paragraph. Please state, "when all mining, collecting and processing operations cease, NSS will reclaim all structures, buildings, facilities and improvements on public land that are attributed to this mining operation".
- Page 19, Table 3-2, Interim Reclamation Seed Mix. Our staff specialist would like to see the following seed mix replace the one you have submitted for interim reclamation only:

Species	Scientific Name	Seed Rate (lbs/ac)
Thickspike Wheatgrass	<i>Elymus lanceolatus ssp. lanceolatus</i>	2.0
Small burnett	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	2.25
Bluebunch wheatgrass	<i>Pseudoroegneria spicata sp. Spicata</i>	3.0
Ladak alfalfa	<i>Medicago sativa</i>	1.5
Total		8.75

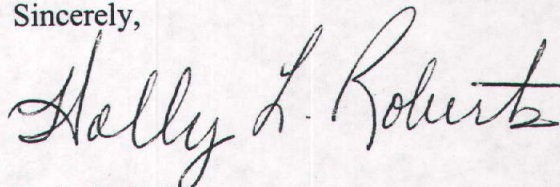
- Page 22, first paragraph. Access through millsite No.3 will not need to be a post mining feature to be left at the time of reclamation (see figure 8).
- Page 24, second paragraph, second sentence. Change six quarries to seven quarries.
- Page 24, 3.M, Surface Stone Collection Areas. Specify in this paragraph that collection will be conducted within the blue stippled areas designated on fig.5, if in fact that is where you plan to collect stone.
- Page 24, 3.N, Concurrent Reclamation. Insert "and/or DOGM" after BLM in the last sentence.
- Page 24, 3.O, Interim Closure. Insert "and/or DOGM" after BLM in the last sentence.
- Figure 3. Your claim boundary doesn't show placer claims 2, 3, 4, and 5, but they are referenced in Appendix A.
- Figure 3. The current permit area shows that the permitted area extends west of the fence in millsite No. 3. Nothing has been authorized or permitted west of the fence. Your figure is incorrect and will need to be fixed.
- Figure 3. Clarification on why the two quarries are called complexes and what does "Grandfathered disturbance" mean.
- Figure 4. Shows part of the "existing permitted area" to be on the west side of the fence on millsite claim No 3. Nothing has been permitted outside the fence line, and this discrepancy will need to be corrected.
- Figure 5. Waste piles are not to scale (when cross referenced with fig. 7), therefore proposed acreage may need to be increased, or figures should be re-drawn.
- Figure 5. The water line shown in this figure should be mentioned in the text if it is proposed within the next ten years (life of this modification).
- Figure 5. What is the difference between "Quarry 3 Proposed" and "Proposed Quarry (5-10 years)"?
- Figure 5. Proposed road arrow and roads in millsite No 4 need to be clarified (is it going to be a loop?).
- Figure 5. In table 2-3 (pg 12) it shows your proposed disturbance for the next ten years are contained to the three quarry complexes, but fig. 5 shows a lot of area outside the three quarry complexes that are proposed disturbances. This will need to be clarified.
- Figure 6. There is no corresponding A-A' on any of the other figures, where are these cross-sections located? What will the maximum slope of the quarry faces be?
- Figure 7. This maps scale is incorrect; 1" is less than 100'.
- Figure 8. Where did the northern-most quarry go?
- Figure 8. The fence on public land will need to be removed during reclamation and the modification should address this.
- Figure 8. The "Grandfathered Disturbed Areas" changed sizes from what they were on fig. 3.
- Appendix A, Mining Claim Information. Turquoise Stone Placer Claim(s) 2, 3, 4 and 5 do not show up on any of the figures.
- At least one of the figures needs to be a topographic map at a scale that would be useful for calculating reclamation.

Until we have a complete modification for UTU-69380, we will not be able to review your reclamation cost estimate. Once we have a complete modification we can then determine if your reclamation cost estimate satisfies the requirements of 43 CFR § 3809.500.

It may be best to arrange a meeting to discuss the deficiencies and matters of concern with your modification. If you think that would be beneficial for the progress of approving this modification, please contact Larry Garahana to schedule a time and place for said meeting.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, Larry Garahana of my staff would be more than willing to assist you, feel free to contact him at (801) 977-4371.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Holly L. Roberts". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Holly L. Roberts
Assistant Field Manager
Nonrenewable Resources

Enclosure:

cc: Lynn Kunzler
State of Utah
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

August 17, 2005

Larry Garahana
BLM - Salt Lake Field Office
2370 South 2300 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

Subject: 2nd Review of Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations,
Northern Stone Supply, Inc., Turquoise Stone Quarry, M/003/020, Box Elder
County, Utah

Dear Mr. Garahana:

The Division has completed our review of Northern Stone Supply's draft Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations for the Turquoise Stone Quarry, located in Box Elder County, Utah, which was received June 6, 2005. We have also reviewed your draft comments of August 11, 2005.

At this time, the Division has no additional comments to make regarding this plan. However, please ask the operator to respond to the BLM comments as he did with the last review (addressing only the comments in the review document and providing redline/strikeout text to identify the changes made. The Division has not calculated reclamation cost for this project. We will coordinate this effort with the BLM after Northern Stone has finalized the plan. While the BLM is acting as lead for this review, the Division requests that the final reclamation surety be held jointly with the Division holding the actual instrument since both BLM and Fee property are involved (it is our understanding that the BLM cannot hold a bond for non-federal lands).

The Division will suspend further review of the Turquoise Stone Quarry Notice of Intention until Northern Stone Supply's response is received. If you have any questions in this regard please contact me, or Lynn Kunzler of the Minerals Staff. Thank you for your coordination of this permitting action.

Sincerely,

Susan M. White
Mining Program Coordinator
Minerals Regulatory Program

478 - 1050

SW:LK:jb
cc:ld Gary M. Miller, Operator

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